

Please amend claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 15, and 24 as follows:

1. (Amended) Translation apparatus for moving a cartridge access device along a displacement path, comprising:

a first elongate gear rack aligned along the displacement path, said first elongate gear rack having a first end and a second end;

a first elongate guide member integral with said first elongate gear rack and extending along the displacement path substantially between the first and second ends of said first elongate gear rack;

a first bearing mounted to the cartridge access device, said first bearing engaging said first elongate guide member;

a second elongate gear rack aligned along the displacement path and positioned in spaced-apart relation to said first elongate gear rack, said second elongate gear rack having a first end and a second end;

a first drive pinion mounted to the cartridge access device, said first drive pinion engaging said first elongate gear rack;

a second drive pinion mounted to the cartridge access device, said second drive pinion engaging said second elongate gear rack; and

pinion drive apparatus operatively associated with said first and second drive pinions, said pinion drive apparatus rotating said first and second drive pinions to move the cartridge access device between the first and second ends of said first and second elongate gear racks.

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3. (Amended) The translation apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first elongate guide member comprises first and second opposed bearing surfaces and wherein said first bearing mounted to the cartridge access device slidably engages the first and second opposed bearing surfaces of said first elongate guide member.

8. (Amended) Translation apparatus for moving a cartridge access device along a displacement path, comprising:

a first elongate gear rack aligned along the displacement path, said first elongate gear rack having a first end and a second end;

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a second elongate gear rack aligned along the displacement path and positioned in spaced-apart relation to said first elongate gear rack, said second elongate gear rack having a first end and a second end;

a third elongate gear rack positioned in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation to said first elongate gear rack;

a fourth elongate gear rack positioned in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation to said second elongate gear rack so that said first, second, third, and fourth elongate gear racks define a generally rectangular, parallelopiped configuration with said first and third elongate gear racks defining a bottom side of the generally rectangular, parallelopiped configuration and said second and fourth elongate gear racks defining a top side of the generally rectangular, parallelopiped configuration;

a first drive pinion mounted to the cartridge access

device, said first drive pinion engaging said first elongate gear rack;

a second drive pinion mounted to the cartridge access device, said second drive pinion engaging said second elongate gear rack; and

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pinion drive apparatus operatively associated with said first and second drive pinions, said pinion drive apparatus rotating said first and second drive pinions to move the cartridge access device between the first and second ends of said first and second elongate gear racks.

13. (Amended) Translation apparatus for moving a cartridge access device along a displacement path, comprising:

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a first elongate gear rack aligned along said displacement path, said first elongate gear rack having a first end and a second end;

a first elongate guide member integral with said first elongate gear rack so that said first elongate guide member extends along the displacement path;

a second elongate guide member extending along the displacement path and positioned in spaced-apart relation to said first elongate guide member;

a first drive pinion mounted to the cartridge access device, said first drive pinion engaging said first elongate gear rack;

a first bearing mounted to the cartridge access device, said first bearing engaging said first elongate guide member;

a second bearing mounted to the cartridge access device, said second bearing engaging said second elongate

guide member; and

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pinion drive apparatus operatively associated with said first drive pinion, said pinion drive apparatus rotating said first drive pinion to move the cartridge access device along the displacement path.

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15. (Amended) The translation apparatus of claim 14, wherein said second elongate guide member comprises an integral portion of said second elongate gear rack.

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24. (Amended) Translation apparatus for moving a cartridge access device along a displacement path, comprising:

an elongate gear rack aligned along the displacement path;

guide means integral with said elongate gear rack for guiding the cartridge access device along the displacement path;

a drive pinion mounted to the cartridge access device, said drive pinion engaging said elongate gear rack; and

pinion drive means operatively associated with said drive pinion for rotating said first drive pinion to move the cartridge access device along the displacement path.

REMARKS

Claim 2 is cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 15, and 24 are amended. Claims 1, and 3-24 remain for consideration. Re-examination and reconsideration are requested.

In the Office Action, the examiner objected to claim 15